



Homeland  
Security

# WMD THREAT AND RISK ASSESSMENT (LOCAL JURISDICTION)

## COURSE SYLLABUS



This training program was developed in cooperation with  
The Texas A&M University System, Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)  
National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center (NERRTC)  
*A Member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium*

**VERSION 3.0**

# Objectives

## Module 0: Welcome and Introduction

### Course Objective

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Upon completion of this course, the multi-discipline team will have the skills necessary to conduct comprehensive risk assessments and identify needs.

## Module 1: Jurisdictional Assessments Overview

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### Terminal Objective

The participants will be able to identify the requirements and benefits of conducting a threat and vulnerability assessment within the jurisdiction.

### Enabling Objectives

- Describe the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) program for assessing domestic preparedness and providing federal funding to the state and local jurisdiction in support of that effort through the State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy (SHSAS) program
- Describe the value of forming a Jurisdictional Working Group (JWG)
- Describe the disciplines that make up the multi-discipline teams and the roles each has in responding to a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive CBRNE/terrorism incident

## Module 2: Terrorism and Threat Assessment

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### Terminal Objective

The participants will be able to conduct a threat assessment and determine the jurisdictional threat rating.

### Enabling Objectives

- Define the terms Terrorist, Potential Threat Element (PTE) and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)
- Describe PTE motivations and their potential targets
- Identify and describe types of WMD (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive [CBRNE])

- Assess a PTE in accordance with the threat assessment criteria

## **Module 3: Basic Vulnerability Assessment**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participants will be able to conduct site surveys of facilities and infrastructures, and determine strengths and vulnerabilities relevant to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) scenarios.

### **Enabling Objectives**

- Describe the seven vulnerability factors
- Conduct a site survey and complete the Individual Target Vulnerability Summary
- Develop and deliver an 8-10 minute presentation that addresses identified site strengths and vulnerabilities
- Discuss strategies to improve security of potential targets

## **Module 4: Planning Factors**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participants will be able to determine planning factors and likely – Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) incident scenario(s).

### **Enabling Objectives**

- List and describe the six steps used to develop planning factors for the basic assessments
- Determine the planning factors for the basic assessments
- Determine likely CBRNE incident scenario(s) to use for comprehensive needs assessments

## **Module 5: Capabilities Assessment**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participants will determine the Desired and Current Capabilities and WMD Response Levels to respond to potential CBRNE scenario(s).

### **Enabling Objectives**

- Determine the jurisdictional responsibilities and tasks

- Determine the emergency response disciplines
- Determine the Desired Capabilities
- Determine the WMD Response Levels
- Determine the Current Capabilities

## **Module 6: Needs Assessment**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participants will determine the discipline and jurisdiction needs to enhance emergency response to CBRNE/terrorism incidents.

### **Enabling Objectives**

- Understand the relationship among the CBRNE scenarios, planning factors, capability assessment, and solutions areas.
- Determine the needs in the five solutions areas: Plans, Organization, Equipment, Training, and Exercises.

## **Module 7: Summary and Review**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participants will be able to describe how each aspect of the jurisdictional risk assessment process integrates into the overall domestic preparedness strategy.

### **Enabling Objectives**

- Describe the sequence of the jurisdictional assessment process
- Summarize the function and purpose of the Needs Assessment process, and how it supports the goals and plans of the jurisdiction

## **Module 8: Agricultural Vulnerability Assessment (Optional)**

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### **Terminal Objective**

The participant will be able to complete the agricultural vulnerability assessment, determine potential Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE)/terrorism scenario(s) and Planning Factors.

### **Enabling Objectives**

- Understand agriculture terrorism threats

- Describe potential target categories for the Agricultural Vulnerability Assessment (AVA)
- Describe AVA Vulnerability Factors
- Conduct AVA
- Determine strategies to improve potential target security
- Determine Agriculture Planning Factors